



To: House Transportation Committee

ABATE of Michigan, Inc.

P.O. BOX 99 CONSTANTINE, MI. 49042

From: Vince Consiglio, President, ABATE of Michigan

RE: SB 160

ABATE of Michigan opposes SB 160 because the Polaris Sling-Shot is not a motorcycle. To quote a motorcycle dealer, "The only thing motorcycle on a Sling Shot is the plate." It is much wider than any 3 wheel motorcycle. It is an auto-cycle which can travel well over 100 mph. To allow this vehicle to be included in motorcycle stats skews the stats, and allowing the driver to use it without a cycle endorsement is a direct conflict with the concept of a motorcycle endorsement. We have supported motorcycle dealerships and the motorcycle industry in Michigan.

This vehicle is Not a Motorcycle. It does not have handlebars, a motorcycle seat that is straddled, shifter, rear brake pedal, front brake control, clutch, etc... It does have bucket seats, roll bar, gas pedal, foot car brake, roll bar, seat belts. It is so wide that 2 of them will not be able to ride side by side in 1 lane. A large motorcycle cannot share the lane with a Sling Shot.

ABATE of Michigan members have expressed stiff opposition to this bill as written. We do believe that this vehicle can pass a test similar to the current motorcycle endorsement skill test, the MSF Rider Skill Test (RST).

Our recommendation is to set up a separate auto-cycle category that doesn't effect motorcycle statistics directly. Auto cycles are here to stay. If this is not possible then auto-cycles that travel over 50 mph the operator should be required to have a cycle endorsement. I can write a skill test for the Sling Shot. I have included some of my professional certificates in this testimony package. According to the Michigan State Police in 2013 unendorsed motorcycle operators were in 55% of all motorcycle crashes in that year. Can we afford to add Sling Shot Operators in that category? I think it is reasonable to think not.

Thank you,

Vince Consiglio

President, ABATE of Michigan